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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Thuringia

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

25X1C

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 May 1950

REFERENCES

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PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. a. All Soviet soldiers who had been quartered in the building of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce and in the Park Hotel (county kommandatura), Sonneberg (H 51/J 40), left the town on 22 March 1950, going by rail toward Meiningen. Railroad men said that from Meiningen they proceeded toward Erfurt. The requisitioned quarters in Sonneberg were released to the Germans. (1)

b. Hildburghausen (H 51/J 10).

All Soviet troops and offices left the post on 24 and 25 March 1950. The school boardinghouse on Seminarstrasse and the previous MVD building were returned to their owners. Railroadmen said that the troops went toward Erfurt via Meiningen. (2)

2. All Soviet troops who occupied the Hildburghausen school boarding-house left on 25 March 1950, going by rail toward Schleusingen. The building was soon inspected by German authorities. The Hildburghausen kommandatura was allegedly moved to Ilmenau (H 51/J 23). Sixty to seventy soldiers, who had done border duty at Adelhausen, left a house of Marienstrasse on 25 March 1950, heading north. The house was reoccupied by another unit of approximately the same strength. The personnel of that unit were also assigned to border duty in the Adelhausen sector. They may have come from the Soviet Union, according to the opinion of local residents. The Hildburghausen MVD office was also abandoned. (2)

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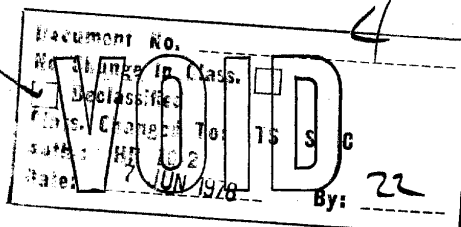
3. a. About 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets arrived in Buchenhausen (H 52/O 99) on 28 March 1950. They were quartered in the former Soviet kommandatura building. It was the believed that they belonged to an advance detail, which, according to rail shipping documents, belonged to

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b. Ten boxcars with vegetables, destined for [REDACTED] Erfurt, passed through Muehlhausen between 28 March and 3 April 1950. (4)

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Comment:

(1) Information of 21 March 1950 stating that preparations were made to move the Sonneberg kommandatura was confirmed by the report. (5)

(2) Only a small component unit of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div (presumably assigned to zonal border duty) and an Operational Group of the GGB (on Georgenstrasse) were previously in Hildburghausen. The information of two sources indicated that the unit of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div was exchanged for another unit of this division, presumably in view of movements to the Ohrdruf troop training grounds in April 1950 affecting component units of the division. There are no indications that the unit which newly arrived in Hildburghausen came from the Soviet Union.

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(3) [REDACTED] the Halle 68th Gds Recz Regt of the 21st Gds Recz Div which was thus confirmed there up to 28 March 1950. It is considered possible that elements of the regiment may have been assigned to zonal border duty in the Muehlhausen area.

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(4) [REDACTED] confirms the Erfurt-Marbach Eighth Gds Army ration supply depot up to 3 April 1950.

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